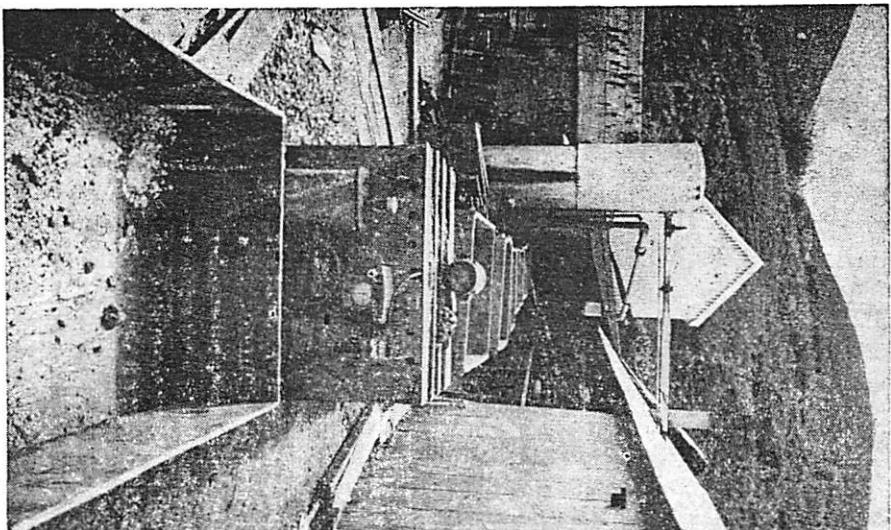
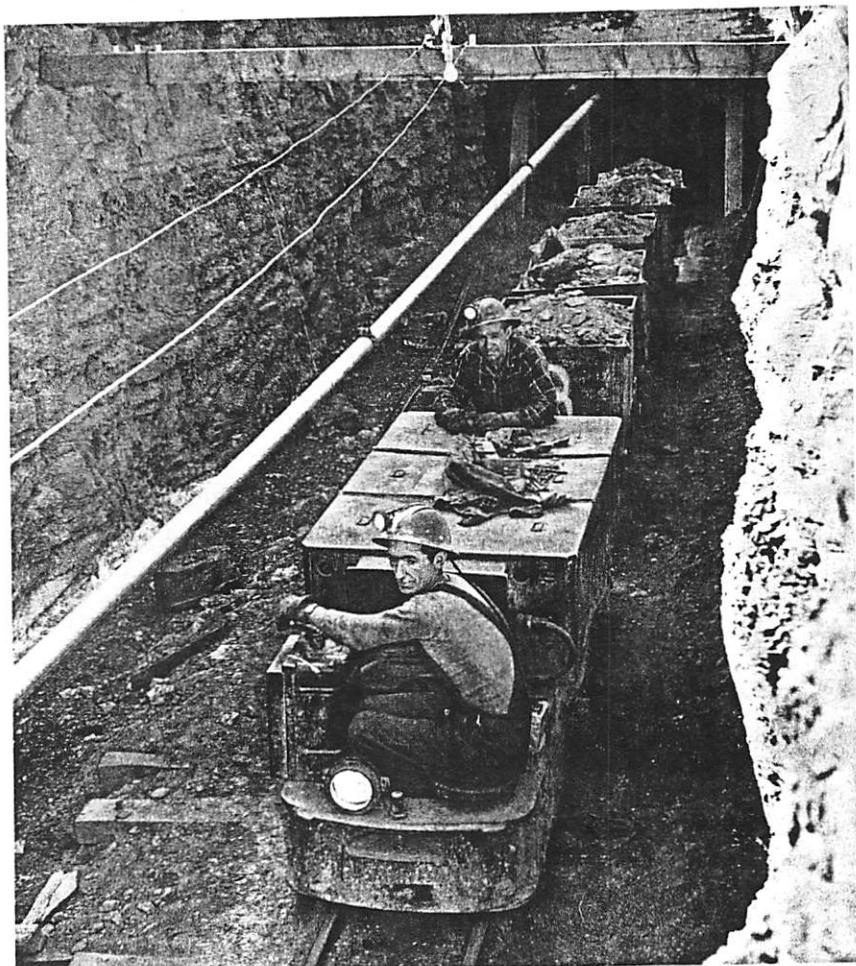


Loaded cars of uranium ore are brought out of a mine in the Red Canyon District of southern Utah. (Photograph courtesy Atlas Minerals, Division of the Atlas Corporation.)

Portal of the Mayflower Tunnel of the New Park Mining Co., through which the Park Galena fissure is tapped, and on which most of the com-





Loaded cars of uranium ore are brought out of a mine in the Red Canyon District of southern Utah. (Photograph courtesy Atlas Minerals, Division of the Atlas Corporation.)

Downwinders had. In many cases, mining companies, anxious to reap huge profits in a market guaranteed by the AEC, failed to properly ventilate their diggings. As radium breaks down, part of it turns into radon, a radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer, and concentrations of uranium can also cause radiation poisoning. Many of the miners, some of them Navajos recruited on the reservation, contracted cancer and died.

COLD-WAR PROSPERITY

In the meantime, the wartime buildup, which had revitalized the defense installations and carried uranium fever to the Colorado Plateau while killing southwestern Utahns and leaving Navajo miners with incurable cancer, brought prosperity to the Wasatch and Oquirrh Fronts. This urban prosperity spread from the defense

installations to private companies and services to the rest of the urban public tractors, especially those that—Thiokol, Sperry Rand, and Quardt—had all benefited.

New levels of prosperity demand for processed goods of the major beneficiaries in manufactured products from Utah's farms and mines. Beef owned by Amalgamated was poured out sugar to sweet cookies. Meatpackers, Cudahy, Doctormen, Jorg Miller, and canning companies Blackington and Woods Products to consumers' tables. Tins of Sego Milk, lovingly cows," flavored cakes and Steel plant shipped out rolls at Midvale, Garfield, and processed copper, lead, and zinc mines.

UTAHNS UNEVEN PROSPERITY

At the same time, the whole state and in a reversal of conditions after World War II, people in other states came at levels Utahns could not match. In 1945, Utah's \$1,128 per capita income was twenty-fifth among the states, below the \$1,234 national average. By 1970, although the population of Utahns had increased to 1.5 million, its per capita income had jumped to 21st place in the intervening quarter century, from 91 percent of the national average to 100 percent, and its relative ranking dropped to thirty-ninth.

In 1946, the dismantling of the defense establishment and pressure to return to peacetime conditions did not bring prosperity. During 1946, strikes for better working conditions closed mills, coal mines, and railroads. Utahns and other Americans